

REMARKS

Applicants thank the Examiner for conducting an interview on May 29, 2007. During the interview, the rejection in view of Bosloy was discussed but no agreement was reached.

Claims 13-19 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Bosloy.

Claim 13 has been amended to clarify that the decentralized switching devices are decentralized devices forming a telephony exchange. This is an important distinction over the cited art.

Bosloy teaches an ATM network with ATM nodes 34, 36, 38 and 40. The Examiner asserts that these ATM nodes correspond to the claimed decentralized switching devices. Applicants have amended claim 13 to clarify that this can not be true. ATM nodes function to transport data, and are used after a communications link has been established. On the other hand, decentralized switching devices forming a telephony exchange function to establish a connection, or communications link, between telecommunications apparatuses for the purpose of communication, whereas ATM switches transport the data resulting from the communication. This amendment to claim 13 clearly distinguishes the features of claim 13 from the cited art.

The remaining claims are allowable at least due to their respective dependencies. Applicants request that this rejection be withdrawn.

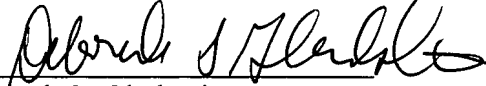
In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue. If it is determined that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number given below.

In the event the U.S. Patent and Trademark office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection

with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 03-1952 referencing docket no. 449122025100.

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Respectfully submitted,

By 

Deborah S. Gladstein

Registration No.: 43,636
MORRISON & FOERSTER LLP
1650 Tysons Blvd, Suite 400
McLean, Virginia 22102
(703) 760-7753